NEW-ENGLAND FARMER.

PUBLISHED BY JOSEPH BRECK & CO., (AGRICULTURAL WAREHOUSE,) NO. 52 NORTH MARKET STREET.

VOL. XXIII.] BOSTON, WEDNESDAY EVENING, OCTOBER 2, 1844. [No. 14.

NEW ENGLAND FARMER.

MASS. SOCIETY FOR THE PROMOTION OF AGRICULTURE.

FARM REPORTS.

Answers of Walter Bigelow, of Worcester.

1. My farm consists of land improved, 150 acres.
2. Soil consists of clay loam.
3. Plow about 6 inches.
4. No thin soil on which to try deep plowing.
5. The only method used for improving my land has been by planting corn the first year, and the next oats and grass seed.
6. Till about 100 acres: put about 20 loads of manure to the acre.
7. Half the manure applied in the long, and half in the compost state.
8. Spread the long, put the compost in the hill.
9. Plow greensward last of summer or early in autumn.
10. Mow about 50 acres; average, 1 1-2 ton per acre: 75 tons suitable for market.
11. Irrigate about 6 acres: put the water on the last of April; some seasons earlier: keep it on till hay time.
12. Put on the irrigated land about 12 loads of compost per acre, once in three years.
13. Have between 5 and 6 acres low land, not suitable for the plow: average yield of hay, 1 ton per acre: part of it produces more, and part of it hardly any hay at all: on the best part it is common stock hay, worth half price: the other, very poor, worth but little.
14. Have never tried to reclaim any low land until the present year: the last of August and fore part of September, I plowed nearly an acre, turned it flat, cut two ditches through, and one around the margin: I pared off the hillocks, levelled them into the hollows, put 20 loads of loam upon it, and seeded down: it now looks finely.
15. Planted 6 acres of corn the present season: the ground was plowed about the first of September, 1842; in the spring, I put on about 12 loads of long manure per acre, and plowed it in; then harrowed, and furrowed about 3 1-2 feet apart; put about 12 loads of compost in the hill; then planted with the eight-rowed corn, similar to the Parker corn. The method adopted of putting half of the manure in the hill, is owing to a wet clay soil; and it is found by former experiments on the same lot of ground, to be of great importance to the forwarding of the crop in the early part of the season. The quantity of corn per acre, by accurate measurement of one acre, is 67 1-2 bushels.
16. Planted only one acre of potatoes: the object was more to subdue the ground than to obtain a great crop. Planted 2 feet apart one way, and 3 the other: produce, 270 bushels—common blue potatoes.
17. Had very few other vegetables: in garden, 20 bushels carrots, 16 do. turnips, 4 do. beets, 5 do. parsnips. Shall give them to cows that give milk in the winter.
18. Sowed 8 acres of oats first week in May this year: usually earlier. Sowed upon ground that was planted the year before: the ground was plowed twice, harrowed, to prevent some of the seed from falling too deep; 3 bushels of seed per acre; then harrowed and rolled: obtained about 50 bushels per acre.

Raised no wheat: winter rye, for the purpose of improving the ground: sowed 4 acres, raised 20 bushels per acre; ground plowed in June, and again just before sowing in September; the rye harrowed in—no manure.

19. Sowed 8 acres to grass, in May, with oats: 1 peck herds grass, 5 lbs. clover per acre. Have never failed but once in having the seed take well, for 24 years.
20. Put in 60 loads of loam or mud in the barn-yard, in the fall of the year: the cattle are kept on it through the winter: then in the summer it is plowed or shoveled over three or four times, together with the corn butts, straw and other litter, and with yarding the cows on it nights, it amounts to about 140 loads per year; then the best of it is taken for corn the next year, and the remainder put upon grass ground for top-dressing. Then I obtain about 100 loads of manure from the barn-cellar in the spring, which is applied in the long state for corn, as stated above.
21. Keep 6 oxen, 8 cows, 4 beef oxen, 20 young cattle: 10 of the latter have been pastured off of the farm: 1 horse.

Have one barn 97 feet long, 40 wide; one 32 feet long, 30 wide: a cellar under the long barn for manure.

22. My cows are of mixed breed.
23. Calves to be raised I let suck about ten weeks, then turn them out to pasture.
24. Quantity of butter from 8 cows, 1250 lbs.: not any cheese.
25. Not any sheep.
26. Have 9 old hogs, 9 pigs; weight of pork, 3121 lbs.; they were of mixed breed, Berkshire and native.
27. Feed them through the summer upon skim milk with a little meal, say half a bushel per day for the whole—half corn and half oats. I have increased the quantity of meal to about one bushel per day, for the last two months before killing.
28. I obtain about 80 loads of manure from the hog styes, which is composed of mud, loam, straw and leaves.
29. Employed two men and a boy this year, with two men extra in hay time: commonly do not have so much help; last year, had only one man and boy. Pay $12 dollars per month; $20 in hay time.
30. Have about 200 apple trees; half of them old and bear but little: the rest are young grafted trees, mostly winter apples: they are just beginning to bear; obtained 20 barrels last year; sold a part: the natural fruit is commonly boiled with potatoes and pumpkins, for store hogs in the fall of the year.
31. Have 15 young cherry trees, 30 peach trees, 8 plum and 6 pear trees.
32. Trees have never been attacked by any thing except the common caterpillar.
33. No ardent spirit used on the farm, or by any member of the family.

I also send the account of beef and veal:

9 large oxen and 2 cows,	11,980 lbs.
Veal,	600 "

Most of the beef cattle have been raised on the farm.

General Observations.

Bought, March 1814, 81 acres of land, without buildings, for	$1737 00
In 1816, 70 acres, with an old house and barn thereon, for	2750 00
Also, in 1828, 30 acres more, for	800 00
	$5287 00

The land being rocky, and much run up to bushes, my object has been to bring it generally to a productive state, rather than to obtain a large crop from a particular piece of ground. I have therefore subdued the bushes, and made 1100 rods of stone wall; built my house in 1829, at a cost of about $2000; also, barn in 1832, at a cost of about $1200; other buildings, $800. I was in debt for one-half the second purchase, and all of the last at the time, which has all been paid. I have made other investments to the amount of $4000; kept for the past three years from 35 to 41 head of cattle; sold the last three years, 30 tons of hay per year. Have had no other resources but by labor as a mechanic until 43 years of age, and my farm for about 24 years.

As I have not been so particular as to weigh and measure and note results with regard to exactness, I have stated the above general results, as the best account I can now give of my farming.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

WALTER BIGELOW.

Worcester, Nov. 6, 1843.

Answers of Crocker Thatcher, of Lee.

1. My farm consists of 80 acres.
2. Nature of the soil, a sandy loam.
3. Plow from 7 to 10 inches deep.
4. I do not like the *skimming* process. Plow deep. Give us depth of soil.
5. Best method of improving my lands is by rotation of crops.
6. Plow and till not far from 50 acres: put from 15 to 25 loads manure on the acre.
7. Apply manure in its long or green state.
8. For corn, spread manure upon the furrows and harrow in; put compost from the hog's pen in the hills. For potatoes, plow under.
9. Plow for corn late in the fall: for potatoes, plow in the spring.
10. Mow of upland from 20 to 25 acres: quantity per acre this year, 2 tons.
11. No low land irrigated.
13. Have 6 acres of low land which we mow: spread over with compost once in three years, after the hay is cut. Yield, 2 tons per acre; redtop and herds-grass.
14. Have no bog or peat land.
15. Planted 3 acres of corn; plowed in the fall; the seed put in dry; 15 loads of green manure on

the furrow, and then well mixed with the soil; 10 loads of compost in the hill, from the hog-yard; yield, 109 bushels of ears per acre.

16. Planted 3 acres of potatoes; plowed in about 20 loads of green manure to the acre; planted 3 feet each way; cultivated by plowing with the horse plow, both ways, and hoeing; yield, 235 bushels per acre; kinds, Mercer, Round Pink-eye, Flesh-colored, and Merino.

18. Sowed 4 acres of rye, 15th August, 1842; sward land turned over in the last of June; before sowing, went over it with the cultivator, to loosen top of the ground; sowed 1 1-2 bushel per acre; yield, 25 shocks per acre, nearly 1 bushel to the shock. Oats, 4 acres; sowed after corn; yield, 120 shocks, 2 bushels or over to the shock; 28 bushels per acre; sowed last week in April. 3 acres of barley; 23 shocks per acre; sowed after potatoes.

19. 11 acres laid down to grass; seed sowed with rye in August, with other grain in the spring; 4 quarts of clover and 4 of herds grass per acre, without using lime.

20. For manure, use turf from the road and muck from the swamp; have the barn-yard covered over in the fall with turf and muck, and under all of the stable windows and under all the stables, put turf to the depth of 3 feet to absorb the urine from the cattle.

21. Have 4 oxen, 2 three years old and 2 two years old; 4 cows; 2 three years old steers; 7 one year old; 1 four years old horse; 1 three years old colt; 2 two years old colts; 25 sheep, at the present time. Barn, 32 by 40; cow-house, 18 by 40; horse barn, 24 by 36. No barn cellar.

22. Cows of native breed.

23. Calves taken from the cows as soon as the milk is good, and then feed with milk after the cream is taken off, and fed on hay and roots through the first winter.

24. Make butter and cheese for family use; quantity not known; sell what butter have to spare.

25. Average quantity of wool, 3 1-2 lbs.; mixture of Merino and Southdown; give the sheep an open shed to lie under; feed on clover hay through the winter, and a short time before they lamb; a few oats to the ewes after they lamb; boil the oats; lamb last of March or first of April; ast spring raised 22 lambs from 18 ewes; none died.

26. Kept 2 swine through the winter; fatting 3 old ones, which will weigh 1100, and 3 pigs, which will weigh 600 or over; breed, the best we can find; fed during summer with boiled potatoes and slop of the house, with a little meal; fattened on boiled potatoes, provender made from corn in the ear, barley and oats ground together.

28. Take from 20 to 30 loads of manure from hog-styes yearly; made from muck and turf, weeds, straw, &c.

29. Help, 3 hands, viz: myself, son and one man hired for six months; wages of the hired man, $50 for the six months.

30. Number of apple trees, 115; 65 of them are grafted, 50 common apples: sell grafted fruit and feed natural fruit to store hogs and cattle.

31. Of other fruit trees, 15.

32. Know of no such animals as canker-worms and borers.

33. Use of ardent spirits never allowed. I have a son now nearly 21 years of age, that cannot tell one kind of spirit from another: not only never drank any, but never saw any to know what it was.

CROCKER THATCHER.

Lee, Oct. 26, 1843.

For the N. E. Farmer.

CHANGES IN FRUIT.

Mr Breck—Your correspondent J. S. S. is correct in saying that great changes are wrought in fruit, grain and vegetables, by varying climates and soils. Much of interesting novelty is to be gleaned by competent observers in this branch of natural science, although the facts already ascertained are curious, but, so far as I am aware, have not been satisfactorily accounted for. Keen's Seedling strawberry does not maintain in this country, the character which it has gained in England. The Rhode Island Greening apple raised hereabouts, is much inferior to that produced in Rhode Island. Other instances will occur to those familiar with writings on gardening, and with the practice of that art. I will, however, claim a Yankee's privilege to *guess* that the supposed mysterious result referred to by J. S. S., should not be ascribed to the unquestionable difference between the climate and soil of Fairfax county, Virginia, and those of Louisiana, but merely to sowing the seeds of the cherries from Wood Lawn, with the expectation that they would produce Black Heart trees. Any one who has raised seedling cherry trees, must have noticed that, when they came to bear, the fruit of all of them was not only far from being the same as that of the parent, but the brothers and sisters themselves bore little if any family likeness to one another. This, however, is by no means new. Mr Knight, the late famous President of the London Horticultural Society, remarks at p. 138 of the 2d vol. of its Transactions, that "The cherry sports more extensively in variety when propagated from seeds, than any other fruit which I have subjected to experiment; and this species of fruit is therefore probably capable of acquiring a higher state of perfection than it has yet attained." Hence a solution of Col. Butler's wonder should not have been sought in the heavens above or in the earth beneath, but inquiry should have been made of the winds that blew over Wood Lawn, or of the bees in quest of food there at the time the trees which produced the seeds were in blossom. If they could have spoken the truth, they would have said that they were nature's agents in this, as in other instances of the cross breeding of fruits, by wafting or conveying the pollen of the blossoms of other cherry trees to the pistils of those of the Black Heart.

If instead of planting the stones of the Black Heart cherry, the Colonel had applied to you or your neighbor Kenrick, he could have obtained stocks budded with that variety, and which would certainly have produced it. To be sure, we might not then have had the Vevay cherry to which he refers, and which, if correctly described, would seem to verify the conjecture of Mr Knight, that the cherry was susceptible of a higher state of perfection. *****

Washington City, Sept. 23, 1844.

To Make Yellow Butter in Winter.—Put in yolk of eggs just before the butter comes, near the termination of the churning. This has been repeatedly tried, and it makes very fine sweet butter. It is kept by many as a great secret, but its great value requires publicity.—*Cor. Alb. Cult.*

The Worcester Co. Cattle Show will beld at Worcester, October 8th. The State Society's Show at the same place the next day.

For the New England Farmer.

CHANGES IN FRUIT.

Mr Breck—Sir—Your correspondent, J. S. S., in the Farmer of the 18th inst., speaking of the changes in fruit by transplanting to different soils, refers to a conversation had at the Indian Hill farm, and says: "Many curious facts were mentioned in connection with it. The beardless white wheat of the Eastern Shore of Maryland, on being transplanted to the Eastern Shore of the Chesapeake Bay, turns into the red chaff wheat"; and quotes from a letter of Col. Butler, of New Orleans, to the National Institute, showing that cherry stones of the Black Heart variety, obtained at Mount Vernon, or Woodlawn, and planted at New Orleans, produced trees which bore "the wild cherries, much larger than the wild cherry, and resembling in flavor the black cherry of the North."

I will not trouble you with any remarks on the supposed changes in the character of wheat grown in different fields or places, although aware that some have entertained the opinion that wheat turns to cheat, or chess, that barley turns to oats, and, if I recollect right, it was gravely asserted a few years since, that somewhere in Maine, the stalk of the gilliflower produced *potatoes!*

But, in relation to the trees grown at New Orleans, from stones of the Black Heart cherry raised at Mount Vernon, and producing fruit so dissimilar to the parent tree, I think that *climate* has nothing to do with it. I have raised trees from the seeds of the Black Tartarian cherry, some of which have produced fruit small and worthless, not much larger than the wild cherry, *(Prunus Virginiana,)* but distinct from it, while others have yielded fruit worthy of cultivation, although not resembling the original.

The cherry stones obtained from Mount Vernon by Mr Lewis, and cultivated by Col. Butler, would undoubtedly have produced the same kind of fruit which he and Mr Wright obtained, had the stones been planted, and the trees reared in the immediate neighborhood of the parent tree.

With much regard, yours, &c.

J. NEWHALL.

Lynnfield, Sept. 23, 1844.

☞It is well known to all horticulturists, that trees raised from any choice fruit, and particularly the cherry, will produce that which is far different from the original. Buds or grafts taken to another climate, will invariably produce the same variety of fruit as in the country from whence they were taken, but may be inferior or superior in quality, according to circumstances. We think there must be some mistake about the change of one distinct species or variety of wheat by planting in different soils or climates. We must believe that the beardless white wheat will be the beardless white wheat, wherever planted. The contrary belief appears to us to come nearly in the same class of absurdities with the change of wheat into chess, barley into oats, or, to crown the whole, gilliflowers into potatoes!—Ed.

In an experiment in Maryland, in feeding hogs with shelled corn, and the same lot with half the quantity in meal made into mush, it was found that on the mush they increased five pounds more in a given time, than on the raw corn, and their coats were much better.

Cattle Show at Barnstable, Wendesday, Oct. 16.

THE DISEASE IN POTATOES.

There is no topic of conversation more common or more interesting, at this time, among farmers, than the disease which seems to have affected the potato crop in New York, Vermont, New Hampshire, Connecticut, and Massachusetts. From Maine we have not yet heard any complaints. We give below extracts from newspapers from various sections of the country.—*Courier.*

From all parts of this State, we hear similar complaints. The loss in the south towns of this county, has been very great, and in Genesee and Wyoming counties not inconsiderable. A writer in a late number of the Utica Gazette, thinks that the disease is the effect of an insect. This is not the general opinion. The disease has been on the increase for several years, and has excited great interest in Scotland, Germany and Russia. The better opinion in those countries is, that by long propagation from the tuber, without recurring to the natural seed of the plant, it has lost a portion of its vital power, and hence is extremely prone to blight, rust, and to rot. We have paid considerable attention to this matter for the last eighteen months, and have found that many plants last season and this, have perfected no blossoms or seed. Whenever balls are produced, they should be carefully dried, and planted next spring, with only a few seeds in a hill, and cultivated in the usual way. Potatoes thus grown in Germany, have been imported into Edinburg, and proved to be both sound and excellent roots, by several years' experience. The same trials have been made in Massachusetts and on the Hudson river, with like success. The loss last season from rot in potatoes, in this State, exceeded several hundred thousand dollars, and we fear that this year it will fall but little below one million.—*Buffalo Com. Advertiser.*

We hear that in many sections of the country, the potato crop has been considerably injured with the rot. This is probably owing to some new disease, instead of the drought—the same calamity having last year happened to that crop at the east, when the season is directly the reverse of what it is now. It is dangerous using potatoes thus affected. We have heard of recent instances of the death of animals to which potatoes partially decayed had been fed.—*Rochester Democrat.*

We have been told that in one town in this county, the effluvia exhaled from an undug potato field, was as offensive as that of white-fish. That at Colchester, men could scarcely be hired at two dollars per day, to remove these putrifying articles from cellars; and in some places farmers had plowed them in deep, to get rid of them. In our own vicinity, many fields of potatoes are afflicted with this malady. A friend has a crop raised from a hamper of Irish potatoes, which are free from the rot affection, but a row of Mercers, contiguous, were every one of them rotten. It is said some persons have been afflicted with indisposition from eating potatoes this season, and that one person lost two hogs, which had eaten them. This being the case, the peculiar nature of the offensive virus generated in them, must be different from that of decaying old potatoes, kept late in the spring or summer, of which my hogs and cows have always eaten with impunity.—*New Haven Herald.*

Extract of a letter from a gentleman in Windham county, Vermont:

"Our crops are all good, excepting potatoes. There is not only a blast upon them, but a disease which renders them unfit for use: in many fields, nine-tenths are rotten, or are beginning to rot. Many hogs are said to have died in consequence of eating them. Such a thing never was known before here. How many will be saved, will depend much upon the weather: if it continues dry, we may save some, as there is now and then a field that is injured but little: we are all busy in harvesting, but I fear they will rot in the cellars, as it is impossible to sort them properly, some being diseased on the outside, and some inside. The Millerites say it is a judgment sent from God, for not believing their peculiar doctrine; but it seems *their* potatoes do n't escape, but share the same fate of the unbelievers."

Rot in Potatoes.—We continue to have accounts from various quarters of what is supposed to be a disease among potatoes. This is certainly uncommon in New England, though in New York the same complaint was made last season.

The summer has been uncommonly dry near Boston, yet the potato crop is quite as good as common: and we hear of but few instances of rot in potatoes here. In Worcester county, and throughout New Hampshire, the summer has been more wet, and there we find more cases of the rot.

We cannot account for this uncommon attack on this useful plant: we must have more facts, to give us a clue to the cause. If the season had been uncommonly wet, we should suspect that might have some influence. We are inclined to think we do not revert often enough to first principles: our potatoes deteriorate by planting the tubers for a long course of years, as all know who have paid attention to it. The *long red* has retained its good qualities longer than any kind that has been introduced here, while the Chenango has evidently depreciated. But we must be prepared to supply its place from seedlings.

We invite those who are complaining of the *rot* in potatoes, to state particularly what kinds are most affected with rot, and how long they have been propagated from tubers.—*Mass. Ploughman.*

Mr John Merriam, of Bedford, tells us his potatoes are rotting in the hill. He put his manure in the hill at the time of planting.

Mr Elridge Merriam states that he spread the manure for his potatoes over the ground, putting no more in the hill than elsewhere, and his potatoes have not rotted. He planted on green sward land, and he notices that worms work less in such cases than in fields that have been long planted.—*Ibid.*

The Potato Plague.—We have seen a letter from a farmer in Vermont, which states that his potatoes, where the land was mixed with barn-yard manure, are almost entirely cut off by the rot; while those on a piece manured with muck soil, are perfectly sound and healthy.—*Bost. Mail.*

Sad Potato Prospect.—A farmer on the Surry hills informed us that out of 600 bushels of potatoes he does not expect to save 50. He put 100 bushels of the red into his cellar, looking well, and in four days he was obliged to remove them and tip them up on a dry piece of land. They will, he thinks, *all go.*

We hear from Jaffrey, that one farmer has lost eight out of nine hogs that had been fed upon defective potatoes.—*Keene (N. H.) Sentinel.*

Nearly or quite the entire crop of potatoes in this region is lost! When dug they are found to be diseased and rotten. Several of our farmers have commenced plowing them in.—*Barre (Mass.) Gaz.*

Mr Samuel Hartwell, of Southbridge, in a letter to the Massachusetts Spy, says:

"In consequence of the very general complaint of a destruction of the potato crop in this section, by some new and unknown agent, causing them to decay partially in the field, and wholly in masses after they are harvested, I was induced to make an examination of several specimens of diseased potatoes, the results of which, hasty and crude as they are, I submit to the public, for the purpose of calling the attention of scientific farmers to the subject.

From an examination of several varieties of potatoes, from the same and different locations, I think I traced the disease from its first attacks to its consummation in the total destruction of the potato. It is found more commonly, though not exclusively, in connection with green tops, on late crops. It commences in the eye or germ of the future plant, which first dies, and from this point it spreads wider and deeper till the whole potato decays. In connection with all its stages, except its most advanced decay, but more especially in its incipient attacks, are found *maggots*, or *larvæ*, and other creatures which I shall call *insects;* and even in the most decayed specimens, there are, apparently, traces of their mischievous work. The larvæ or worms average about a line in length—are slender, with dark heads, semi-transparent bodies, and are sluggish in their movements.

The insects are, some, invisible to the naked eye, others, a mere visible white point—and others still, nearly a line in length, with numerous short legs, long antennæ, of a white color, extremely active and shy.

Now, without saying that the insects are the same creature as the worm in a more advanced and perfect state, or that the disease and decay are the result of their depredations, I merely say that, so far as I have observed, they are concomitants. I hope farther investigations will be made to discover the cause and remedy of so great an evil."

Fattening Hogs.—Fatting hogs must now have as much as they can eat: they should be urged forward as fast as possible before cold weather comes. They will gain more in one week now, than in two weeks three months hence. There is much in the garden now that may be added to the mush for hogs. Pumpkins, refuse squashes, cabbages, apples, potatoes, &c., may be boiled up or occasionally fed out raw, just for variety—for pig is a gentleman that prefers a variety of dishes and a good dessert.

Give him, also, your greenest corn, cutting up cob and corn and stalk, an inch or two long. He will eat up all clean, while they are novelties in his pen. After all, your main stay for fatting him up, is grain of some kind. Indian corn ground, is best. Buckwheat comes next; rye is good, mixed with Indian; and oats always make the breakfast relish well.

You should bear in mind to let your hogs have charcoal *every year;* therefore we name it, that you need not suppose what was said and done about it last year, will answer for this. A little brimstone, too, is good—and brimstone need alarm no one, since we keep it to whiten straw with.—*Mass. Ploughman.*

Apples for Cows.—A peck or more to a cow, of mellow ripe apples will increase her milk and will not diminish her meat. Pumpkins, too, improve the milk and make good beef.—*Ib.*

VIRGINIA AGRICULTURE.

To the Editor of the N. E. Farmer:

Dear Sir— You may perhaps remember a promise I made you when I left Boston for the South, that I would write something about the agriculture of Virginia, for your valuable and interesting paper—and now you have that promise fulfilled. I propose to give you some idea of the system of farming pursued in this State, the advantages and disadvantages that surround us,—some idea of slave labor, and the prospects held out to farmers from the North to come and settle among us. I shall speak principally, at present, of the counties in this section of Virginia, viz: Fairfax, Prince William, Fauquier, and Loudon—which seem to me to offer great inducements, at present, to the Northern emigrant.

The soil of Fairfax was originally quite fertile, but owing to the ruinous system of farming practiced by our ancestors, it has of late years become comparatively valueless. In character, it varies from a deep yellow clay to a thin, gravelly soil, which can hardly pay for any improvement. The clayey lands in the hands of the New Yorkers, who have recently settled amongst us, are, I believe, realizing their fondest expectations. Their crops of corn and grain this year are very fine, and, even at the present low prices, can hardly fail to compensate them for all their labor. It seems almost like the work of magic to see what success follows the judicious system pursued by these hard-working farmers. The sterility of the soil of Fairfax has long since passed into a proverb, and our people can hardly believe the evidence of their senses, when they see such noble shows of grain on this soil, which they have been taught from their boyhood, was good for nothing save sumach, mullen, and persimmon wood. I am happy to find, however, that such good farmers as the New Yorkers, from Dutchess county, think otherwise, as their continued emigration conclusively shows. They find a ready sale for their lands in New York at from $50 to $100 per acre, and coming here, they buy it at a price, I think, never exceeding $10, and in many instances at less than $5. This land, as they have amply proved, is capable of great improvement, and within 15 miles of the Alexandria, Washington and Georgetown markets, which afford not only a sale for their grain and heavy produce, but also for quite a considerable quantity of vegetables and lighter products of the soil.

The climate of this section of country is delightful and salubrious—without the extreme cold of the North, or the heat of the South, we enjoy a temperate and equable succession of seasons, making the labors of the husbandman easy and profitable. No where does fruit thrive better, and in greater quantities. Grapes and other fruits grow in boundless profusion through the woods. Some of them, as the persimmon, would undoubtedly pay the cost of transportation to a less favored clime. The papaw tree, with its bright yellow fruit, like the West Indian banana, literally covers our swamps and low grounds. The May apple is found in great quantities in our dark woods. The two last would hardly bear exportation, though they are delicious fruits, and have very much the appearance of tropical plants.

Such are some of the advantages of Fairfax county; but we must also look a little at the disadvantages of an abode here. In the first place, to a Northern man, the *system of slavery* must be a great drawback. This is, undoubtedly, a great evil to any farming country; but we must consider that in the proportion that the white population *increases*, in the same proportion does the slave population *decrease*. This proposition has been triumphantly proved by the history of Fairfax county. The number of slaves is much smaller now than it was ten, or even five years ago, as reference to any statistical tables will show. In nearly the whole of Virginia there is, too, a growing desire to be rid of the slaves. This can never be accomplished till we have free white laborers to till our soil; and where shall these be found, save through the channels of emigration? The Northern farmer, then, who sells his land at the North and emigrates to a slave State, becomes, virtually, a *practical philanthropist*, and does his share in freeing his country from the incubus which has for so long a time *darkened* her prospects and retarded her prosperity. Slavery cannot much longer exist in this State: the evil will cure itself; and hence it becomes every well-wisher to his country to use every *proper* means to assist us. Twelve years ago, the most active measures were taken in the Legislature of this State, to get rid of this evil by a summary process, and but for the interference of a few misguided fanatics, we should ere this have rejoiced in freedom. How much misery and poverty are these men answerable for, will some time be seen: we can only at present surmise.

Another disadvantage a Northern farmer will have to contend against, is to be found in the want of energy and industry of his neighbors. This may seem a trifling drawback, but it is nevertheless, a real one. Your plow wants repairs: you take it to your blacksmith: he is, very likely, talking politics at the neighboring store: you have to capture him, and draw him unwillingly to his forge: the fire has to be made, the iron has frequently to be bought, and you have to watch him as he goes again into the influence of the *political* circle, and give your assistance to his work when he gets fairly at it. All this time you are wasting time which is really money to you both, but you alone seem to be aware of this fact. From your neighbor's want of industry and energy, his fences stand so low that his hogs have free range in your corn. To be sure, in this you have the happy consciousness that you are the means of fattening hogs that otherwise *never would be fatted*; but this can ease your tortured mind but little, when you remember that in this way your corn goes into your neighbor's pockets. Of course, *all* our neighbors are not of this class, but, it is to be feared, the class is by far too numerous. Never did I visit a community where the truth of the old adage that "Providence takes care of the lame and lazy," was so amply displayed.

Here, then, you have some of the more prominent advantages and disadvantages of a residence in this section of our country. You are much *nearer home* than you could be in the Far West, with a soil that amply repays your labors, and a climate delightful for "all that grows." You are near good markets for your produce, where the price of products bears a singularly high ratio to the price of the land;—you have good laws, and many good institutions. With these advantages, and the trifling disadvantages, (much less than at the West,) we would respectfully invite such committees of purchase as are about setting out for the West, in search of homes, to give us a call, and judge for themselves. I do not wish to see the Massachusetts emigrants behind our New Yorkers in availing themselves of any advantages that our State may possess.

If, Mr Editor, you think this letter, of any value to you, I shall be but too happy to give you more in the same vein. Till then,

Believe me yours, truly,

BUCKSKIN.

Buckland, Prince Wm. Co., Va., Aug. 23, 1844.

☞We feel greatly indebted to our young friend "Buckskin" for his interesting communication, which, we have no doubt, will be perused with pleasure by our readers. As we have the promise of further communications from him, it will not, perhaps, be amiss to state that the writer is a graduate of Harvard University. We knew him while a student in that institution, and found him deeply interested in the cause of agriculture. Having inherited a large landed property, he returned last year to his native State, after completing his collegiate studies, with the determination of devoting himself to agricultural pursuits, and of introducing in his own native land, the improved Yankee modes of husbandry with which he made himself acquainted while residing among us, and which he found to be vastly superior to the deteriorating process of farming that has for many years been pursued in many sections of his own State. It will give us great pleasure to receive further communications from our young friend, and we trust that his influence and example will not only be beneficial to his more immediate neighbors, but that others remote from his locality, may be interested and instructed by the contributions of his observing and cultivated mind.—Ed.

From the Boston Cultivator.

ON MANURING IN THE HILL.

It is a deplorable fact that there are many who think they must manage their farms just as their fathers, or even, perhaps, as their grandfathers did; and who believe that to derive the greatest profit from manure, they must "dung in the hill." I propose in this brief article to show, in my feeble manner, that this is not the better way to experience the greatest pecuniary advantage, from the following considerations:

1st. It has been proved by trial that the first crop is invariably smaller where the land is manured in the hill, and if the first is poorer, I suppose there is not the least doubt that the succeeding ones will be. Two years ago last spring, we planted a small field, containing about three acres, with corn and potatoes, manuring the principal part of it by spreading on; we, however, manured about half an acre in the hill, which even had a better soil than much of the other. This was planted and hoed at the same time with the other, and in the early part of the season any one would have supposed from the appearance of the potatoes, that there would have been as great a crop where manured in the hill as of those that were manured the other way. But this was not the case. No: in digging them the difference was very clearly perceived: I should judge that there was not more than two-thirds as great a crop on the part manured in the hill, as on the other part of the piece. Nor is this all. Last year the same field was sowed with oats, and there was as great a contrast in them as in the potatoes of the previous year. This year we have cut two crops of grass on the same piece of ground, which go to prove none the less the truth of the above assertion. So far as my knowledge extends, I think this to be a correct criterion in all instances.

2d. Potatoes manured in the hill, are, in nine cases out of ten, eaten badly by the worms. I know the worms are a great trouble, even if the manure is spread on, but much more so where it is put in the hill.

3d. Also, where the manure is put in the hill, the potatoes grow too rank in the earlier part of the season, too much of the essential part of the manure is expended in promoting the growth of the tops.

If the manure expends the principal part of its strength in the earlier part of the season, it will not be sufficiently felt in the latter part to cause the potatoes themselves to grow to a good size; but spread on the manure, and it does not relax its agency, but continues to exert itself the whole season.

4th. Corn and potatoes, as well as every thing else that is planted where the manure is spread on, will endure a drought much better than if manured the other way. Where the manure is put in the hill, the hill must of necessity be made higher than if it was spread on—and being increased every time of hoeing, it becomes of such a shape that the rain runs off as freely as from a stack of hay, irrigating the ground *between* the hills, and leaving the hills themselves almost entirely dry.

Another reason is, the seed being planted upon the manure, the roots grow too near the top of the ground, so that when there are a few days of dry weather, the ground becomes dry down to the roots, which, as a natural consequence, will greatly injure the growth of the plants. But as I am growing somewhat prolix, I will close this meagre communication by requesting those who have heretofore been accustomed to manure their land in the hill, to try the other way, and I am fully persuaded that they will be richly compensated for the experiment. LECTOR.

Experiment with Clover and Timothy Seed.—Desirous of learning, by direct trial, at what depths clover and timothy seed would germinate, I made a narrow trench in a favorable situation, three and a half feet long, increasing in depth from the surface at one end to the other end, where it was six inches deep. The bottom of it was therefore an inclined plane, and was made smooth and even, by pressing a straight-edged board forcibly upon it. Thus prepared, the seed was sown thickly in the trench, its whole length.—In twentyfour days, at an average noon temperature of 45 deg., the plants appeared at the surface for four inches from the shallowest end towards the deepest part of the trench; and afterwards continued to appear from still deeper portions of the ground for seventeen inches, when it wholly ceased to vegetate. Three months have now elapsed, and not a leaf has shown itself beyond the point just named. The clover and timothy sprouted alike, and ceased to germinate at the depth of two and a half inches. The plants are now nearly a foot high, at the shallow extremity of the trench; and diminish in stature as the trench deepens, the lowest being about five or six inches in height. The intelligent farmer will, of course understand the object and appreciate the value of this experiment.

Some of the same seed was scattered on the ground, at the same time, and left uncovered. It vegetated in due season; its radicals, from an eight to a fourth of an inch long, lay exposed to the snow and frost for some time, and finally found their way into the earth. J. T. P

—*Western Farmer and Gardener.*

Break your Horses to work without blinders.—We have always thought the "blinders" or "eye-winkers" on our harnesses which we work our horses in, were not only a useless appendage but oftentimes injurious. We consider them useless, because we cannot think or see any good they do. We never heard but one reason for using them, and that was given by a stage driver, and that was the following: "That off thill horse, you see, is a lazy dog, and needs the '*string*' pretty often. His mate is more free—now if he could see me when I go to strike his mate, he would spring and take the whole load, and the off one would shirk out just the same." There is some reason in that, to be sure. We can't always have horses matched equally in teams, either as it regards temper or strength, and, of course, once in a while, it may work well to hide a free horse's eyes from the evil that is descending in the form of an angry driver's lash; but, as an offset to this, the lazy horse will also see the blow coming, and probably will spring out of the way too, as well as the other, so that the power will be as equally applied by them both. We think that many horses are disposed to "*shy*" more, as it is called, when their eyes are partially covered by blinders than when not. Horses may be trained to work without them, and colts should, by all means, be taught to do it. We think horses appear much better without than with them, especially if they have a good eye naturally.—*Maine Farmer.*

Not so Fast.—A writer in the Central New York Farmer, who rejoices in the name of S. G. Cove, observes that "he believes the Durham cattle and Bakewell sheep will share the same fate as the Rohan potato"—that is, we suppose, be neglected and become extinct. We will let others defend the Durhams, which will probably continue to be prized for some hundred years longer at least, and say a word or two in favor of the Bakewell sheep. It is now sixty years since Robert Bakewell introduced the excellent breed into notice, being the product of crosses dictated by his skill and judgment. They have proved themselves to be a valuable sheep for mutton and long worsted wool.

These are two articles of prime importance, and what inducement can there be to let the breed go to destruction? None at all. On the contrary, the inducements to the American farmer are greater than ever to keep up the breed in all its purity: 1st, because the increased facilities of transportation are such that the farmer can get them to market very quick, cheap and easy; 2d, because that kind of wool is coming into demand for the manufacture of Mouslin de Laines. Why, last spring we met a man, one of our neighbors, driving a flock of Dishley wethers that he had purchased of a man *away up* on the back side of Maine, *just this side of the woods, next to the North pole*, and he shipped them by a steamboat to Boston, where they sold "mighty quick," as the best of good mutton. The farmer realized a good profit on them—the driver realized a good profit on them—the butcher realized a good profit on them—and the consumers, we doubt not, waxed fat and were satisfied. Do n't mention Dishleys and Rohans in the same day with each other. We have raised Dishleys in our day—full blood ones, too—and are so well satisfied with them, that we mean to again as soon as we get well placed for the business.—*Maine Far.*

There are no gains without pains.

Rotation of Crops.—The following principles are laid down by Chaptal, for a rotation of crops:

I. All plants exhaust the soil. They are partly supported by the earth, the juices from which constitute an important part of their nourishment.

II. All plants do not exhaust the soil equally. Air and water help nourish them; different kinds of plants require the same nourishment in different degrees.

III. Plants of different kinds do not exhaust the soil in the same manner. Plants with spindle or tap roots, draw nourishment from layers of soil in contact with the lower part of the root, while those whose roots are spread near the surface, exhaust only that part of the soil.

IV. All plants do not restore to the soil either the same quantity or the same quality of manure. The grains exhaust a soil the most, and repair the injury the least; while some leguminous plants restore to the soil a great portion of the juices they receive from it.

V. All plants do not foul the soil equally. Plants are said to foul the soil when they promote or permit the growth of weeds. Plants which have not large leaves fitted to cover the ground, foul the soil.

From the above principles the following conclusions have been drawn:

1. That however well prepared the soil may be, it cannot nourish a long succession of crops without becoming exhausted.

2. Each harvest impoverishes the soil to a certain extent, depending upon the degree of nourishment which it restores to the earth.

3. The cultivation of spindle or tap roots, ought to succeed that of running and superficial roots.

4. It is necessary to avoid returning too soon to the cultivation of the same or analogous kinds of vegetables on the same soil.

5. It is unwise to allow two kinds of plants which admit of the ready growth of weeds among them, to be raised in succession.

6. Those plants that derive their principal support from the soil, should not be sown excepting when the soil is sufficiently provided with manure.

7. When the soil exhibits symptoms of exhaustion, from successive harvests, the cultivation of those plants which restore most to the soil, should be resorted to.

Separating Seeds from Pomace.—In washing apple and pear seeds from pomace, put about half a bushel of pomace in a barrel, fill the barrel half full of water, then with a stick that has a number of large nails driven into it all round, six or eight inches on the lower end, and sticking out most of their length, agitate the pomace violently in the water, by which the seeds will separate and sink down, and the pomace which will swim or be suspended, may be turned off. Repeat this till the seeds are clean; or when you have partially cleaned several small lots, put them all into one, and repeat the stirring and washing. After washing, the seeds should be carefully dried.—*Bost. Cult.*

The Philadelphia Ledger says: "Wagon loads of cotton and woollen machinery are passing along our streets, all going from East to West. Where they come from, or where they are going, we know not; but it looks well, for it shows that people are preparing to enter upon manufacturing."

We gain nothing by falsehood but the disadvantage of not being believed when we speak the truth.

NEW ENGLAND FARMER,
AND HORTICULTURAL REGISTER.

Edited by Joseph Breck.

Boston, Wednesday, Oct. 2, 1844.

THE ROT IN POTATOES.

Mr Breck—In your paper of the 18th inst., you have a line saying "The rot in potatoes is again noticed in New York." I am sorry to say the same misfortune has befallen the potato crop in all this section of the country. It is but a week or ten days since it was discovered; and some farmers immediately commenced digging and storing them in their cellars; but decomposition was apparently much more rapid after they were taken from the ground, attended with a most offensive smell, and they have been taken from the cellars and buried in the ground. It is said in some instances where they have been fed to cattle and hogs, it has caused their death. It is now generally thought best to let them remain in the ground till the weather shall have become colder.

There are, of course, many conjectures and *guesses* about the cause of the rot. Many suppose it is in consequence of the dry and unusually warm weather we have had for several weeks past. But why should they have rotted so badly in western New York last year and this, and we suffered none last year? Probably this disease is one of those mysterious operations of nature that are continually at work, in some form or other, in the animal and vegetable creation, and it presents to man one of those hidden mysteries that he cannot unravel. Some years, the wheat in large sections of the country, is nearly destroyed by rust or mildew. This year it has very generally escaped in this vicinity, whether sown early or late—while the herds-grass appeared to be stricken with a rust, so that on many fields not one plant in a hundred headed out, and potatoes, perhaps, were never more generally rusted than the present season. A few years ago, the agricultural papers were teeming with accounts of the destruction of the pear trees by "fire blight," and many theories were advanced to account for it, and many suggestions were offered as a cure or preventive. For several years past I have heard nothing of it, and hope it has ceased: if so, the cause, whatever it may have been, has been removed. But the buttonwood trees in many, if not most sections, have suffered so much from disease or insects, for the past two or three years, that some persons fear the utter destruction of the whole race.

Sometimes the grasshoppers literally become a burden, and devour almost every thing in their way; and the very next season, perhaps, the truant school-boy can scarcely find one to bait his fish-hook with. So with the rose-bug: they occasionally visit us in myriads—run their race and are gone. For two or three years previous to this, a squash or pumpkin was a rarity, from the hosts of the black bug, that destroyed the whole crop. This season I have seen but one single bug, and he looked solitary and dejected. The curculio, that pest of the plum, that has so long taken the "first and the fairest," and, undismayed, bid defiance to your Horticultural Society's $200 premium, has, it now seems, *sloped*, as they say out West.

Who can tell from whence they come, and whither they go?

From the fact of this disease of the potato having prevailed two years in New York, it is possible it may continue its ravages for several years to come; and, to guard as much as possible against such a contingency, I think it would be wise, and for the interest of farmers generally, to make extensive preparation this autumn, by subsoiling, or otherwise deeply stirring, and manuring suitable land for the cultivation of the ruta baga, carrrot, and other roots, as a substitute for the potato, for feeding cattle and hogs another year, in case the potato crop should fail. It is an old and good maxim, "Precaution is the parent of safety"—and if, haply, there should be no failure of the potato crop another year, I think no farmer would regret having a good supply of succulent roots on hand for his stock of cattle, during our long and cold winters. L. B.

Warner, N. H., Sept. 24, 1844.

POTATOES ON SWARD LAND FREE FROM ROT.

Mr Breck—Dear Sir—While all my neighbors are mourning the calamity which has this year befallen their potatoes, I am so fortunate as to be entirely exempt from detriment in mine. In two fields of potatoes adjoining mine, so diseased are the crops that I doubt whether the owners will get sound ones enough to repay them for the trouble expended on the fields. Their grounds are perfectly similar in quality to mine; we all used the same kind of seed, and cultivated alike as to hoeing,—but here the similarity ends:—theirs were planted on old ground—I mean ground that had been tilled for several previous years;—mine were planted on *sward* land, and covered with the plow;—they manured in the hill: I applied no manure at the time of planting, but when the plants were up about 4 or 5 inches, I put, say, a gill of plaster on each hill. I must ascribe my exemption from ill luck in this case, to *planting on the sward:* I can conceive of no other reason. The potatoes are not only entirely free from the prevalent affection, but abundant. The product, I estimate, will turn out full 300 bushels per acre—pretty fair, for the expense incurred.

I am anxious to learn if any one else who planted on sward, in sections where the rot prevails, has been exempt from its attacks.

I made an experiment this year in plucking off the blossoms of potatoes, in a patch of early ones in my vegetable garden. I plucked the blossoms from three rows. Upon comparison between the plucked rows and the others, the difference noticed was, the greater uniformity of the plucked ones in size, while they were full as numerous as the others. This would make a very material difference in the *weight* of the produce of an acre. I am inclined to believe, from this, that the plucking of the blossoms is a judicious measure;—but then here is the query: would the difference this makes in the product, repay for the labor it costs?—that is, if practiced on a large scale.

Yours, &c. W———.

Worcester county, Sept. 24.

☞Whatever other cause may be supposed to have occasioned the disease in potatoes, we are confident that *wetness* had no agency in producing it—yet in some places it has been attributed to this. While at Westboro', in Worcester county, last week, where they have suffered for want of rain, and where the *rot* has done much damage, we heard the *dryness* of the season mentioned as the probable cause of the disease. We have no opinion to offer on the subject further than this—that the disease is attributable to some other cause than either wetness or dryness. A writer in the Amherst Express—supposed to be Professor Hitchcock—thinks that the electric state of the atmosphere may have had something to do with the matter.

We would recommend to farmers whose potatoes are affected with the rot, not to store them in the cellar of the dwelling house, as the putrefaction which will take place, may engender sickness in the family. If they have no barn cellar for roots, the potatoes had better be placed in trenches in the earth. So rapid in some cases, has been the decomposition in the diseased potatoes, after being stored in the cellar, that the stench from them, in a few days, has become intolerable, and they have had to be removed. We would further advise that caution be exercised in feeding potatoes to animals from a crop among which the rot has appeared—and still *more* cautious should farmers be not to use such potatoes in their family. The writer in the Amherst Express, however, says, that *cooking* renders the diseased potatoes harmless.

MASS. HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY.

EXHIBITION OF FLOWERS.

Saturday, Sept. 28, 1844.

From Col. M. P. Wilder, President of the Society, a fine assortment of Dahlias, viz: Antagonist, Lady Antrobus, Blanche Shelly, Eximia, Hero of Stonhenge, Miranda, Queen of Trumps, La Lion, Alba purpurea, Nihil, Great Western, Violet Perfection, Flambeau, Beauty of Sussex, &c.

From H. W. Dutton, a great variety of Dahlias—among them, Henry Clay, Oakley's Surprise, Dodd's Prince of Wales, 8 blooms from one plant; Burnham Hero, Bridesmaid, Charles XII., Constantia, Hudson's Princess Royal, Widnall's Queen, Pickwick, Admiral Stopford, Essex Triumph, &c.

From J. Stickney, Dahlias—Essex Triumph, Dodd's Prince of Wales, Argo, Eva, Marshal Soult, Sir F. Johnson, Pickwick, Andrew Hoffer, Ansel's Unique, Miranda, Oakley's Surprise, &c.

From Joseph Breck & Co., 40 varieties of Dahlias, viz: Columbus, Competitor, Miss Percival, Bianca, Antagonist, Mary Ann, Nihil, Oakley's Surprise, La Lion, Lady Cooper, Widnall's Queen, Bedford's Surprise, Grace Darling, Yellow Victory, Queen of Beauties, Madame de Schauenfield, Wheeler's Maria, &c.

From Edward Allen, jr., Dahlias, var. Revolutus, Unique, Fairy, Queen of Trumps, Essex Triumph, Beauty of Sussex, Twyford Perfection, Grace Darling, Fanny Keynes, Col. Baker, Antagonist, Constancy, &c.

From Messrs. Winship, Dahlias, var. Widnall's Queen, Ansel's Unique, and many other varieties.

From John Hovey, Dahlias, of various sorts.

From J. L. L. F. Warren, 6 bouquets, Cactus, Phlox, and Dahlias; as there was no list of them we are not able to name the varieties.

From Miss Sumner 2 bouquets.

The show of Dahlias was the finest of the season; there was not many imperfect flowers exhibited in any of the stands and it would be difficult to say which of the contributors excelled in variety or in perfection of the blooms. The frost on Friday night no doubt prevented many from exhibiting Dahlias, and it is to be feared they are so generally injured as to prevent another show this season that will compare with the present one. For the Committee, J. Breck, Chm'n.

EXHIBITION OF FRUITS.

Hon. E. Vose, Dorchester, very fine specimen of the Brown Beurre Pear, and other specimens, names unknown.

J. W. Sever, Esq. of Dorchester, specimens of a very beautiful apple, name unknown, and other varieties; also Monsieur Le Cure, Chelmsford Beurre d'Or, and Anglona (?) pears.

Mrs Tappan, of Roxbury, by S. Walker, twelve quinces, which weighed 8 lbs 12 1-4 ounces.

Mr. John Hovey, Roxbury, 12 quinces, weight 7 lbs 3 ounces.

Albert Hager, of Lincoln, fine specimens of quinces.

Mr. Geo. Harvey, of Hastings, on the Hudson River, six specimens of seedling apples.

Mr. Reuben Farrington, Brighton, a very extra large specimen of the Baldwin apple.

Dr. S. A. Shurtleff, a fine specimen of the Monstrous Pippin.

J. F. Allen, Esq. of Salem, specimens of a fine seedling Peach, of high and rich flavor.

Mr. A. H. Haven, Portsmouth, N. H. very fine specimens of Seckel and Gansel's Burgamotte Pears; also Cuisse de Madame.

Cheever Newhall, Esq. of Dorchester, some very fine Seedling Peaches of superior flavor.

Josiah Richardson, Cambridgeport, Isabella and Catawba Grape.

Mr. S. W. Cole, Apples, Early Red Seedling, very large, do—name unknown ; also Peaches.

Mr. John Owen, Green Gage Plums.

Mr. George Walsh, Chelmsford, St Michael Pears.

Mr. H. Vandine, Cambridgeport, Pears, St. Michael, Marie Louise, Brown Bourre, Monsieur le Cure ; also, Apples ; and Coe's Golden Drop Plums.

For the Committee, S. WALKER, Chm'n.

Good News from Maine—The Bangor Whig says, "The potato crop in Maine will be better this year than it has been for some years past."

MASSACHUSETTS HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY.

NOTICE.—The annual meeting of the Mass. Hort. Society will be held at their rooms, 23 Tremont Row, on *Saturday* the 5th of October next, at 11 o'clock A. M. for the choice of officers for the year ensuing, viz: a President, four Vice Presidents, a Treasurer, a Corresponding Secretary, a Recording Secretary, a Professor of Botany and Vegetable Physiology, a Professor of Entomology, a Professor of Horticultural Chemistry, an Executive Committee, and Standing Committee on Fruits, Flowers, Vegetables, the Library, the Synonyms of Fruits, and Finance.

EBENEZER WIGHT,
Sept. 11, 1844. *Rec. Sec'y.*

THERMOMETRICAL.

Reported for the New England Farmer.

Range of the Thermometer at the Garden of the proprietors of the New England Farmer, Brighton, Mass in a shaded Northerly exposure, to the week ending Sept. 29.

Sept. 1844.		7 A.M.	12, M.	5, P.M.	Wind.
Monday,	23	44	53	52	N. W.
Tuesday,	24	40	62	58	E.
Wednesday,	25	55	60	58	E.
Thursday,	26	48	49	49	N. E.
Friday,	27	42	56	53	N.
Saturday,	28	32	50	48	E
Sunday,	29	47	48	50	E.

BRIGHTON MARKET.—MONDAY, Sept. 30, 1844.

Reported for the N. E. Farmer.

At market 775 Beef Cattle, 200 Stores, 3800 Sheep and 1525 Swine.

PRICES—*Beef Cattle.*—Sales quick at a small advance. We quote a few extra, $4,75 a $5,00. First quality, $4,50. Second quality, $4,25. Third quality, $2,75 a 3,75.

Stores.—Two year old $10 to 13. Three years old from $15 to 19.

Sheep.—Sales from $1,25 to 2 25.

Swine.—Ohio Shoats 3 1-2; New York Shoats 3 3-4 to 4, half Barrows. A choice lot, 4 1-4, half Barrows. A lot Ohio old hogs 3 3-8 At retail, from 4 to 5 1-2.

WHOLESALE PRICES CURRENT.

Corrected with great care, weekly.

SEEDS. Herds Grass, $0 00 a 2 00 per bushel. Red Top 60 to 71 cents. Clover—Northern, 9 to 11c.—Southern, 9 a 10 c. Flax Seed. $1 50 per bushel. Lucerne, 33 c. per lb. Canary Seed, $2 25 a 2 37 per bushel.

GRAIN. There has been a good demand for Corn and Oats throughout the week, and the advance previously noticed has been fully supported.

Corn—Northern, new, bushel (none) 00—Southern, round yellow, (none) 56 a 57—Southern flat yellow, 54 a 55—do. do. white 49 a 50—do New Orleans, 00 a 00—Barley 00 a 00 —Rye, Northern, 00 a 00—do. Southern, 65 a 68 —Oats, Southern, 29 a 00—Northern do. 00 to 00—Beans, per bushel 1 00 a 1 62.—Shorts, per double bush. 00 a 00—Bran, 00 a 00.

FLOUR. The market opening with a very brisk demand, which was continued until near the close, when buyers manifested less disposition to continue their operations, and the sales fell off very materially, with some slight decline in prices.

Baltimore, Howard Street, 4 mos. cr. $0 00 a 4 50—do. wharf, $0 00 a 0 00—do. free of garlic, $0 00 a 0 00—Philadelphia do. 4 mos. $0 00 a 0 00 —Fredericksburg, low l'd 4 mos. $0 00 a 4 50—Alexandria, wharf mountain, 0 00 a 4 12 —Georgetown, $0 00 a 4 50—Richmond Canal, $0 00 a 0 00 —do. City, $0 00 a 0 00—Petersburgh, South side $0 00 a 0 00 —do. Country $4 50 a 0 00—Genesee, common, cash, $4 56 a 4 62½— do fancy brands $4 69 a 4 87 —Ohio, via Canal, $0 00 a 0 00—do do New Orleans, cash $0 00 a 0 00. Rye, $3 18 a 3 25—Indian Meal in bbls. $2 50 a 2 56.

PROVISIONS. The demand has been very languid, and last week's prices are but faintly supported. One or two parcels Mess Pork have been sold at some reduction.

Beef—Mess 4 mo. new bbl. $6 50 a 7 00—Navy—$6 00 a 6 50.—No. 1, $5 50 a 6 00—do Prime $3 75 a 4 00—Pork—Extra clear 4 mo. bbl. $00 00 a 00 00—do Clear $11 00 a 11 50 do. Mess, $9 00 a 9 75—do Prime $7 50 a 7 75—do Mess from other States.— a — —do Prime do do $0 00 a 0 00 do. Cargo do. 0 00 a 0 00 —Clear do do $00 00 a 00 00—Butter, shipping, 00 a 00—do store, uninspected, 10 a 12—do dairy, 17 cts. a 20—Lard, No. 1, Boston ins. 00 a 0 —do South and Western, 5½ a 6½— Hams, Boston, 7 a 00 — Southern and Western, 5 a 6—Cheese, Ship'g and 4 meal, 3 a 4½ —do new milk, 4½ a 5½.

WOOL. Duty. The value whereof at the place of exportation shall not exceed 7 cts. per pound, 5 per cent. ad val. All whereof the value exceeds 7 cts. per pound, 40 per ct. ad. val. and 3 cts. per pound.

The transactions in this article during the week have been to such a limited extent as not to require particular notice.

Prime or Saxony Fleeces, washed, lb. 50 a 55 c.—American full blood, do 43 a 47—Do. 3-4 do 40 a 42—Do. 1-2 do 37 a 40—1-4 and common do 32 a 35 — Smyrna Sheep, washed, 20 a 25—Do. unwashed, 10 a 17 — Bengasi do 6 a 13—Saxony, clean. 00—Buenos Ayres unpicked, 7 a 10—do. do. picked, 10 a 15—Superfine Northern pulled lamb 42 a 45—No. 1 do. do. do. 37 a 40—No. 2 do do do 25 a 33—No. 3 do do do 18 a 20.

HOPS. Duty 20 per cent.

A lot of 40 bales Vermont Hops, arrived this week, and sold at 8 1-2c per lb. A sale was made by a dealer, deliverable in October, at 9c. per lb.

1st sort Mass. 1843, lb. 8 a 9 ; 2d do 6 a 0.

HAY, 12 to 15 per ton—Eastern Screwed $8 00 to 10 00.

EGGS, 12.

AFRICAN GUANO.

The cargo of the brig Samos, just arrived direct from Africa. This Guano has been analyzed by J. E. Teschemacher, Esq., and pronounced by him as fully equal to the best cargoes received in the London or Liverpool markets. Purchasers can depend on this as being the *genuine* article. For sale, in quantities to suit, by

CHARLES HOFFMAN, Salem.
VERNON BROWN, 5 Merchants' Exchange.
J. BRECK & CO. 51 & 52 N. Market St., up stairs.

Sept. 17. 3m.*

BARN DOOR ROLLERS AND IRON RODS

For sliding Doors, Axletrees, Steel Springs, and Tire Iron for sale by H RICHARDS,
Sept. 18. No. 109, State Street.

STRAWBERRIES!

The subscriber can supply all the most esteemed varieties of Strawberries now in cultivation. The present is considered a good time for the formation of new beds. The following are the prices per hundred plants :—

Hovey's Seedling—a very superior variety, of large sized fine flavor, abundant bearer, and very hardy, $2,00
Keene's Seedling—Large fruit, very high flavor and high perfume, $2,00
Bishop's Orange—Fine size, abundant bearer and superior flavor. $2,00
Elton Seedling—Very large fruit of a superior flavor, considered one of the best in England, $2,00
Myatt's Pine—A delicious fruit, $3,00
Early Virginia, $1,00
English Wood, $1,00

Orders sent by mail enclosing the money will be punctually attended to, and the plants well packed for transportation. JOSEPH BRECK.

Boston, Aug. 6, 1844.

CHEESE PRESSES.

Self acting and other Cheese Presses, of the most approved kinds, for sale at the Agricultural Warehouse, 52 North Market street, by J. BRECK & Co.

GARDENER'S KNIVES,

And other implements for garden purposes, in great variety and of superior quality. For sale at the N. E. Agricultural Warehouse, No. 51 and 52, N. Market Street, by JOSEPH BRECK & CO.

GLASS SUPERCEDED FOR HORTICULTURAL PURPOSES,

Chemical Transparent water proof composition, for rendering Muslin, Cotton, or Linen, for the frames of Greenhouses, pine, melon or cucumber Stoves, &c., impervious to rain, or moisture, and admitting light equal to glass, the burning rays of the sun alone being obstructed. Houses, pits or frames covered with cloth prepared with this composition, embrace important advantages over glass. The light being equally diffused in every part of the house; plants placed on the floor have as much light as those close to the covering, consequently they are not drawn up as under glass, while they continue much longer in bloom, and preserve their delicate tints unfaded until the blossom falls. These facts are gathered from undoubted English authority, and so far as this prepared cloth has been tried in this country has given entire satisfaction, and no doubt will be instrumental of a very great improvement in the Horticulture of this country.

For framing of all sorts, as well as green houses, it will answer an excellent purpose, as it prevents the radiation of heat, and obstructs the burning rays of the sun ; it will give a congenial, moist atmosphere for plants in general. The cost is so trifling that it may be brought into general use for the growing of sallads, radishes, &c., and in a particular manner for Strawberries, Gooseberries and other small fruit which in our climate would be much improved by screening from the burning sun.

This composition is prepared for the subscribers, by a person competent, and will be warranted equal to Whitney's imported from England.

For sale at No. 52, North Market street, at the Agricultural Warehouse, up stairs.

July 30. JOSEPH BRECK & CO.

GRINDSTONES ON FRICTION ROLLERS.

Grindstones of different sizes, hung on friction rollers and moved with a foot treader, are found to be a great improvement on the old mode of hanging grindstones. Stones hung in this manner are becoming daily more in use, and wherever used, give universal satisfaction. The rollers can be attached to stones hung in the common way. For sale by J. BRECK & Co., No. 51 North Market street.

HORTICULTURAL TOOLS.

A few cases of superior Horticultural Tools, for gentlemen or ladies' use. For sale by JOS. BRECK & CO.
51 and 52 North Market Street.

HOES.

The best kind in the Market. For sale by
JOSEPH BRECK & CO.

GARDEN AND FIELD SEEDS.

The subscribers are now receiving their fall supply of Garden, Field and Grass Seeds, and would respectfully recommend to their customers to send in their orders as early as possible to secure a supply from their choicest lots. Their stock of seeds for this season will be very full and complete, and most of the varieties being raised under their own inspection they can confidently recommend them as being fresh and genuine. Among them are Long Blood, Early Turnip and Sugar Beets; Ruta Baga, Mangel Wurtzel, Orange Carrot, Radish. Cucumber and Cabbage of sorts. Also, Peas, Beans and Squashes, which together with a large supply of most kinds of seed desirable for the field or garden, comprise the most complete and extensive assortment of seeds to be found at any similar establishment in the country. JOSEPH BRECK & CO.

Oct. 2.

TRACE CHAINS.

The subscribers have for sale a fine assortment of Trace and Tie-up Chains. JOS. BRECK & CO,
At N. E. Agricultural Warehouse and Seed Store.

Oct. 2.

CIDER MILL FOR SALE.

A first rate Cider Mill, with good Screws, in complete order, will be sold cheap, by JOSEPH BRECK & CO.

July 23.

CORN SHELLER.

A Corn sheller is one of the most convenient and labor saving implements that the practical farmer has in use. Various machines for this purpose have been invented. It can be used in all cases for large or small sized ears. It is very simple in its construction, and durable in its operation, and no way liable to get out of order ; one man can work it to good advantage, though a man to turn, and a boy to feed it, works it much better than one alone. They are so light and portable, as to be easily removed from place to place, and one machine will serve for several families or even the inhabitants of a small town.

For sale at the Agricultural Warehouse and Seed Store Nos. 51 and 52, North Market Street.

JOS. BRECK & CO.

LACTOMETERS

A simple instrument for testing the quality of milk. For sale at the N. E. Farmer Office. JOS. BRECK & CO.

MISCELLANEOUS.

THE CINNAMON TREE.

Mr. Cushing, our minister to China, in an account of the island of Ceylon makes the following statements respecting the nature and cultivation of the Cinnamon tree:—

First, as to *cinnamon culture.* This production in its perfect state is almost a monopoly of the Island of Ceylon, and its growth is confined to a very narrow track of land on the southwest side of the island, chiefly in the neighborhood of Colombo. This does not seem to be the result of political arrangement merely, but to arise from some inappreciable virtue in the combination of climate, soil, and water, and their relation to each other, in this Island of Ceylon, and in this part of it. Some of these peculiarities it is easy to indicate without its being so easy to understand why the particular consequence should follow.

The tract of country in which alone the cinnamon grows to perfection, is situated on the seacoast exposed to the air of the ocean. It is in a climate of equable temperature, which is at once hot and moist—hot from its tropical position, and moist from the frequency and plentifulness of rains. The general level of the country is low in the midst of fresh water lakes, divided from the sea by a narrow riband of land. And the water in the soil of the cinnamon gardens is of extraordinary purity, so as to be for that reason much in request in the neighboring city as a beverage. This exact combination of influences does not occur any where else in the island, at least not in the same degree.

But the crowning fact is the nature of the soil. It is in great part pure quartz sand, of a greyish to a pearly white lustre. A specimen of it being carefully dried by Dr. Davy was found to consist of 98.5 silicious sand, 0.5 vegetable matter and 1 water. This circumstance impresses one very strongly on visiting the cinnamon gardens, it seems so strange to see a plain of pure quartz sand whitened in the sun, and covered over with luxurient growth of trees. In richer soils the aroma is said not to develope itself in the same concentrated form.

Perhaps the name of garden, which is applied to the cinnamon plantations, may lead to an erroneous conception of their nature. The cinnamon tree *(laurus cinnamonium,)* in its natural state grows to the height of about twenty feet; but the bark which is the only valuable part, is found to lose much of its highly aromatic quality in the mature trees. Accordingly, the trees, are cut young, when the stems are only five or six feet long, and less than an inch thick at the largest end. The bark is then stripped or pealed off in long pieces like willow bark, scraped carefully to remove the cuticle, and laid out to dry, during which it curls up in quills, as they are called, and it is then ready for the market, but improves by keeping for a while. The wood is good for nothing but fuel. Owing to the mode of cultivation, this cinnamon garden has very much the appearance of scrub oak, the rich bright green leaves of the small trees being strikingly in contrast with the white plain in which they grow.

It is possible that the fragrance of the cinnamon groves may have been sensible to voyagers along the coast of Ceylon; but I do not believe it often happens; no such fact was perceived on board the Brandywine.—There is very little of this fragrance perceptible in the gardens themselves; and the idea of it extending out to sea is laughed at in Colombo

THE SANDWICH GLASS WORKS.

The flourishing village of Sandwich on Cape Cod, 60 miles from Boston, is a fair specimen of Yankee thrift. This village depends almost entirely for existence on the manufacture of glass. The country for several miles around is sandy and barren. It grows little else than coarse grass, rye, and some vegetables. Every thing in the shape of food has to be brought from other parts, and the materials of its glass manufacture have to be carried hither several hundred miles. The lead is brought 140 miles, from the northern part of Massachusetts; the sand about 500 miles, from Morris river, in Pennsylvania, and the coal to heat the furnace from Virginia, 700 miles distant. All the other materials have to be brought from distant places. The paper for packing the glass comes from Boston, and the straw from the State of New York.

Notwithstanding these disadvantages, this concern flourishes—has in full blow four great furnaces and a dozen small ones—employs within the gates two hundred men and boys, who work six hours, and rest six hours, in sets, from Monday morning to Thursday night. On Friday, Saturday, and Sunday, the fires are blown out. The boys earn about three dollars—the men from 12 to 15 dollars a week. A few fancy cutters earn more. About one fourth of the hands employed are Irishmen.

Many of the articles, such as tumblers, glasses, salts, jars, &c., are cast in mould, not blown, as in Europe. They are not so good, but can be sold for one third of the price, besides the mould imparts a good imitation of the finish of cut glass.

This concern is owned by a joint stock company. The proprietors now reside principally in Boston, there are one or two in this town. It lies on the bay shore. They have sloops of their own bringing in the material and carrying out the manufactured articles. This manufactory gives a livelihood to two thousand persons. There are several glass factories of equal dimensions in other parts of the United States.—*Newburyport Herald.*

JOSEPH BRECK & CO.,

NEW ENGLAND

Agricultural Warehouse

AND

SEED STORE.

51 and 52 North Market Street, Boston.

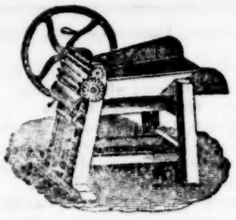
JOSEPH BRECK & CO. having received a full and general assortment of FIELD, GRASS, GARDEN and FLOWER SEEDS, worthy of cultivation, confidently recommend them as being pure and of the first qualities, unmixed with other varieties; they have no hesitation in saying that their collection of Seeds is the best, and of the greatest variety ever offered for sale at any establishment in the U. States.

AGRICULTURAL BOOKS of all kinds, constantly on hand.

AGRICULTURAL AND GARDEN IMPLEMENTS of all kinds, among which are the following, viz:—1000 Howard's Patent Cast Iron Ploughs, 200 Common do. do, 200 Cultivators, 100 Greene's Straw Cutters, 50 Willis' do. do. 100 Common do. do, 100 Willis' Patent Corn Shellers, 50 Common do. do, 200 Willis' Seed Sowers, 50 do. Vegetable Cutters, 50 Common do. do., 200 Hand Corn Mills, 200 Grain Cradles, 100 Ox Yokes, 1500 Doz Scythe Stones, 3000 do Austin's Rifles, 100 doz. Cast Steel Shovels, 150 do. Common do. 100 do. Spades, 500 do. Grass Scythes, 300 do. Patent Smiths, 200 do Common do., 500 do. Hay Rakes, 200 do. Garden do., 200 do. Manure Forks, 300 do. Hay do. 500 Pair Trace Chains, 100 do, Truck do. 100 do Draft do, 500 do. Tie up do, 50 doz Halter do, 1000 yards Fence do, 25 Grind Stones on Rollers

JOSEPH BRECK & CO.,

N. E. Agricultural Warehouse and Seed Store, 51 and 52 North Market Street, Boston.



GREEN'S PATENT STRAW CUTTER.

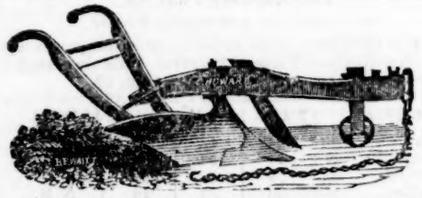
JOSEPH BRECK & CO. at the New England Agricultural Warehouse and Seed Store Nos. 51 and 52 North Market Street, have for sale, Green's Patent Straw, Hay and Stalk Cutter, operating on a mechanical principle not before applied to any implement for this purpose. The most prominent effects of this application, and some of the consequent peculiarities of the machine are:

1. So great a reduction of the quantum of power requisite to use it, that the strength of a half grown boy is sufficient to work it efficiently.

2. With even this moderate power, it easily cuts two bushels a minute, which is full twice as fast as has been claimed by any other machine even when worked by horse or steam power.

3. The knives, owing to the peculiar manner in which they cut, require sharpening less often than those of any other straw cutter.

4. The machine is simple in its construction, made and put together very strongly. It is therefore not so liable as the complicated machines in general use to get out of order.



HOWARD'S IMPROVED EASY DRAUGHT PLOUGH.

Great improvements have been made the past year in the form and workmanship of these Ploughs; the mould board has been so formed as to *lay the furrow completely over, turning in every particle of grass or stubble, and leaving the ground in the best possible manner.* The length of the mould board has been very much increased, so that the Plough works with the greatest ease, both with respect to the holding and the team. The Committee at the late trial of Ploughs at Worcester, say,

"Should our opinion be asked as to which of the Ploughs we should prefer for use on a farm, we might perhaps say to the inquirer, if your land is mostly light and easy to work, try Prouty & Mears, but if your *land is heavy, hard or rocky,* BEGIN WITH MR. HOWARD'S."

At the above mentioned trial the Howard Plough *did more work, with the same power of team, than any other plough exhibited.* No other turned more than twentyseven and one half inches, to the 112 lbs. draught, while the *Howard Plough turned twentynine and one half inches, to the same power of team!* All acknowledge that Howard's Ploughs are much the strongest and most substantially made.

There has been quite an improvement made on the shoe, or land side of this Plough, which can be renewed without having to furnish a new landside: this shoe likewise secures the mould board and landside together, and strengthens the Plough very much.

The price of the Ploughs is from $6 to $15. A Plough sufficient for breaking up with four cattle, will cost about $10 50, and with cutter $1, with wheel and cutter, $2 50 extra.

The above Ploughs are for sale, wholesale and retail, a the New England Agricultural Warehouse and Seed Store Nos. 51 & 52 North Market Street, by

JOSEPH BRECK & CO.

NEW ENGLAND FARMER

A WEEKLY PAPER.

Terms, $2 per year *in advance,* or $2 50 if not paid within sixty days.

N. B.—Postmasters are permitted by law to frank all subscriptions and remittances for newspapers, without expense to subscribers.

TUTTLE AND DENNETT, PRINTERS,

21 SCHOOL STREET.